

# THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 18, 1915

WHOLE NUMBER 1875

## ADAMS ACQUITTED

Jury After Two Hours Discussion Brings in Verdict, "Not Guilty"

## FOUR MONTHS' SENTENCE

For Violation of the Local Option Law

The Adams murder trial which occupied the court of Judge Searl, last week, was concluded late Saturday afternoon, when the jury after a discussion of two hours brought in a verdict of "not guilty."

Immediately afterwards Charles Adams pleaded guilty to the charge of violating the local option law in St. Louis and was sentenced to four months in the county jail by Judge Searl, with an additional fine of \$175 and the costs of court which amounted to \$15.00.

The trial commenced Monday, February 8, and continued until Saturday, February 13, when the jury after hearing all of the testimony arrived at the conclusion that the defendant was innocent.

The state was well represented by Prosecuting Attorney O. L. Smith and the defendant by Attorney Romaine Clark, a young man of marked and promising ability. Both attorneys conducted their respective issues in a very creditable manner.

Charles Adams the defendant is a man of rather unfavorable reputation, who has resided in St. Louis for a great many years and whose only apparent occupation has been that of furnishing liquor at very high rates to the thirsty and parched throats of questionable citizens of St. Louis.

He was arrested about the first of November, charged with the murder of David Sullivan of St. Louis, on Saturday night, October 24 at St. Louis and since that time has been a resident of the paternal home of Newell Bradford at Ithaca.

David Sullivan was found lying unconscious in a stairway at St. Louis, which led to the room of Adams where he conducted a blind pig, on Saturday night, October 24, with a severe scalp wound and several bruises on his body. He was taken to the Brainerd hospital, Monday evening, October 26, and an operation was immediately performed. He died early Thursday afternoon, October 29, as a result of the injuries from the fall. When questioned by the doctors as to how he received the fall he answered, "I went back on my friends, but if I live through this I—fool will have one more glass eye."

An inquest followed the death at the Brainerd hospital and Dr. Brainerd removed part of the scalp and allowed the brain to be viewed by those present. The decision arrived at was that the man met his death by foul means.

Adams' arrest followed and he has remained at the county jail from that time until his trial of the present week.

Dr. Brainerd and Dr. Yerrington gave expert testimony at the trial last week and a skull was used to illustrate the injuries received by Sullivan. He stated that the skull of Sullivan was fifty per cent thicker than that of the average man and that an incision eight inches long had been cut in the scalp and the brain was found to be in a crushed condition and clogged with blood. A bruise was found on the elbow and a mark on one of the legs which appeared to have been made by the impact of a man's hand. One of the peculiar things of the case was that there were no broken bones as would naturally be expected in a case like this.

The testimony given by William O'Riley of St. Louis on the stand last week gave a pretty clear idea of the drunken brawl that preceded the injuries received by Sullivan. His testimony follows:

"He said he was down town and met Adams in a pool room who told him he had some whiskey. He went up to Adams' room. He took a drink as did Lewis Orwig and Fry who were also there. Pretty soon after he got up there, Dave Sullivan, to whom he had given 25 cents not long before, on the street, came into the room with a beer bottle and asked to have it filled for a quarter. Adams said he would not fill it for that price and Sullivan hung around. Adams told him again he would not fill it and to go along and finally Sullivan slipped out. About this time Adams stood near the door into the hall, where Sullivan had gone out and soon after O'Riley says he heard a noise in the hall and looked up. Adams was gone. Adams did not return to the room while he was there but later came to his home and asked him what became of Sullivan, saying he had not been back. He asked O'Riley if he'd better go back to his room and O'Riley said, 'Yes'."

The trial centered entirely on whether Adams was in his room at the time of the fall on the stairs or not. Some of the witnesses stated that he was while others claimed that he was outside of the room about the time of the fall.

Attorney Romaine Clark in his plea to the jury for Adams stated that the defendant was not drunk on the night of the murder. Admitted that he had been drinking but not to any extent. Requested them in giving their decision not to let the fact that he had violated the local option law have any effect on their decision. Stated that Adams left his friend Sullivan, lying unconscious in the hall way because he was afraid of being convicted for selling liquor. He claimed that Sullivan was not pushed but fell down the stairs and gave some very interesting illustrations and facts about the force of gravity which would explain his fall.

Attorney Smith in his plea for the state to the jury especially emphasized the fact that Adams at the time of Sullivan's death was in a drunken condition and would do many things that he would not have done if he had been in his right senses. Stated that Adams had recently returned from Merrill where he had been drinking beer and had then commenced drinking whiskey and the mixing of the drinks had intoxicated him to the extent that he had committed the act of pushing Sullivan down the stairs while in a drunken frenzy.

Repeatedly referred to the remark that Adams had made to one of the witnesses in the case when asked why he did not help Sullivan when injured, and the fact that Adams crossed over the body which was lying in the hallway and ran away without informing anyone of the unfortunate man's predicament.

Judge Searl in his charge to the jury told them that this was not a murder case but a case of manslaughter which is the unlawful killing of another without knowledge or premeditation. Informed them that before convicting defendant they must establish beyond a reasonable doubt that defendant had pushed Sullivan down the stairs on the night of the murder and that the fall resulted in his death.

He stated that the conviction could be given only on circumstantial evidence and in order to bring in a verdict of guilty they must first prove that all of the facts in the case are true and that there was not any possibility of any one else committing the crime. If any other plausible reason for the fall could be given they must acquit. Requested them to consider carefully all testimony for and against the defendant and to also take into consideration the peaceable character of the defendant which would offset his unsavory reputation to some extent.

The jury consisted of Chas. Plowman, Alma; Roy Wang, Emerson; J. D. Smith, Fulton; Myron E. Miller, Summer; Arthur Kennett, Hamilton; Howard Martin, Washington; Sam Marzoff, Emerson; Peter Mates, Alma; Frank Lott, North Star; Wm. Daniels, Fulton; F. C. Pernert, Bethany; Wm. Hummell, Lafayette.

## WELL KNOWN RESIDENT

Seth Tubbs Dies of Heart Disease Feb. 11

Seth Tubbs passed away at his home on State street Thursday, after a long illness. For the past four years he has been suffering from heart trouble and Bright's disease.

Through the death of Mr. Tubbs, Alma loses one of its most respected citizens, a man who has always taken an active interest in the business and social life of this city.

He was born January 6, 1871 in Ontario county, New York, coming to Alma with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Tubbs of Elwell about thirty years ago. He attended the public schools in this city and in 1905 went to Lansing where he served several years as private secretary to the auditor general. Next entered the hardware business, conducting a store in Elwell until about a year ago, when he sold out owing to ill health. Returned to Alma and since that time has been actively engaged in conducting the Tubbs' Brothers Dairy farm.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian church, a member of lodge 244, F. A. M. and of the Knights of Pythias.

He is survived by his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Tubbs of Elwell, his wife, Nellie Fortner Tubbs, and three children, Margaret, Katherine and Kenneth, a sister, Mrs. Lloyd Ellison, and a brother, Harry L. Tubbs.

Funeral services were held at the home Sunday afternoon, the Masonic Order having charge of the funeral. Rev. Mason of the First Presbyterian church officiated.

FOR SALE.—A young standard bred road horse. Inquire of C. F. Brown 1875-t

## IMMIGRANT TRAIN

Will Bring Thirty Families to Alma

## BURT SHARRAR & MOORE

Have Sold Property to Illinois Farmers Who Will Settle Here

An immigrant train of twenty-eight cars from Illinois will leave Chicago on Friday morning, February 26th, and will arrive in Alma, Saturday, February 27th, bringing the household goods, farming implements and live stock of about thirty farmers who have purchased farms in this immediate vicinity and throughout Gratiot county, during the last season, of the Burt, Sharrar and Moore company of this city.

The train will be in charge of the general passenger agent of the Pere Marquette railroad and T. A. Burt, president of the Burt, Sharrar & Moore Land Co. These farms were purchased by farmers from Champaign county, Illinois and the surrounding country.

Several of these cars will be transferred to the Ann Arbor railroad at Alma and will be shipped via this road to Forest Hill, Shepherd and Ithaca. Some of these farmers will locate at Elwell, Alma, St. Louis, Breckenridge and Wheeler.

A special passenger coach attached to the regular train that will arrive in Alma, March first, at four o'clock from Illinois will carry all of the families of these farmers. Several new-comers have already located in this part of the country during the past week and are moving into their new homes.

Little do the people of this section realize that the Burt, Sharrar & Moore Land company is the largest and most successful real estate concerns in Michigan, and this large influx of people from our neighboring state only bespeaks the success with which this well known firm conducts its business. Their western office is located at Urbana, Illinois.

This firm is the pioneer real estate firm in handling Michigan lands on a large scale and the three or four hundred farmers who have purchased farms through them during the last six years is only further evidence that they have successfully handled their business to the mutual advantage of the country, the immigrant farmers and themselves.

Their business during the last few years has run into millions of dollars. Probably nothing is more healthful to the growth and our city and the surrounding country than a progressive real estate firm of this type and character.

There is no question but that the citizens of Alma, Gratiot county and Central Michigan will extend every effort in giving a cordial welcome to the new arrivals.

## TEACHERS CONVENTION

County Teachers' Convention at Ithaca, Feb. 11 and 12

The ninety first semi-annual meeting of the Gratiot County Teacher's association was held at the high school room at Ithaca, Thursday and Friday, February 11 and 12. Practically all of the teachers in Gratiot county were present.

The program follows:

Thursday—forenoon  
9:00 Music by Association.  
9:20 Song—"Kind Winter"—Chorus of boys.  
9:35 "The Teacher Out of School"—Prof. C. S. Larzelere.  
10:20 Distribution of Enrollment Blanks.  
10:30 Intermission.  
10:40 "Frankenstein and Modern Education"—Supt. Francis G. Blair.  
11:30 Announcements.

Thursday—Afternoon  
1:00 Song—"Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"—First Grade Pupils.  
1:45 "King Cotton"—Prof. C. S. Larzelere.  
2:10 Intermission.  
2:25 Music by Association.  
2:40 Secretary's Report.  
2:45 "The Public School as a Melting Pot"—Supt. F. G. Blair.  
3:35 Announcements.

Thursday—Evening  
8:00 at M. E. Church  
Music—Male Quartette.  
Invocation—C. L. Beebe.  
Music—Male Quartette.  
Address—"Waste in Education"—Supt. Francis G. Blair.

Friday—Forenoon  
9:00 Music by Association.  
9:20 Song—"I Wonder"—Leora Blair.

9:30 "Michigan History"—Prof. C. S. Larzelere.  
10:10 "Dramatization of the Short Story"—Miss Lois Wilson.  
10:150 Intermission.  
11:00 "A Decade of History"—Prof. C. S. Larzelere.  
11:40 Intermission.

Friday—Afternoon  
1:00 Song—Girls' Glee Club.  
1:15—"Characteristics of a Good Class"—Miss Lois Wilson.  
1:55 "How to Teach the Civil War"—Prof. C. S. Larzelere.  
2:40 Intermission.  
2:50 "Number Games and Devices"—Miss Lois Wilson.  
3:30 Adjournment.

Friday—Evening  
8:00 Music—High School Glee Club.  
"Ingotar"—Prof. T. C. Trueblood.

The officers of the association are: President, M. E. Hill; secretary, Emma Howland, Banister; conductor, Professor C. S. Larzelere, Mt. Pleasant; instructors, Supt. Francis G. Blair, Springfield, Ill., and Miss Lois Wilson, of Mt. Pleasant.

The local committee consisted of Supt. J. D. Larue and County Commissioner of Schools H. A. Potter.

## SEVENTEEN DELEGATES

Attend State Convention at Grand Rapids, Feb. 12

The Gratiot county delegates to the Republican State convention at Grand Rapids, February 12.

C. W. Giddings, St. Louis.  
C. J. Chambers, Ithaca.  
V. C. Eyer, North Star.  
Walter Shoop, Riverdale.  
J. Brock, Alma.  
E. C. Phillips, St. Louis.  
F. A. Herron, Emerson.  
John Knoertzer, Alma.  
H. C. Rose, Ashley.  
P. C. Callister, Elwell.  
Miles Nelson, Ithaca.  
E. W. Mulholland, Newark.  
Newell Smith, St. Louis.  
E. L. Smith, Alma.  
J. T. Sutton, Washington.  
C. A. Price, Ithaca.  
Romaine Clark, St. Louis.

Resolutions passed at the Republican County convention held at Ithaca, February 5, 1915.

Whereas, we as republicans, claim to be constant observers of the interests and the welfare of this Nation.

1. Resolved, that we, who help to make up the rank and file of the republican party, recognize the fact that our defeat at the last presidential election was due to the personal ambition of one who was once our great leader, rather than that the people were not satisfied with the then administration of public affairs.

2. Resolved, that in the destruction of the protective tariff, by the present administration, the democratic party did more to injure the welfare and prosperity of our agricultural, manufacturing and labor interests, than any other act which any administration could have done. And that the present burdensome revenue tax is due entirely to such action, and not to the European war.

3. Resolved, that we believe in America first, for Americans, and that American citizenship and American industries should be guarded and protected first, and above all other interests and that experience has taught that this sacred trust can only safely be entrusted by its past political policies, and to which we steadfastly adhere.

4. Resolved, that we have faith in the good intentions and judgement of American citizen, and that when the opportunity next presents itself, we will find all republicans pulling together for one common purpose, the greatest good to the greatest number, protection to everything American rather than being controlled by personal aim of an ambitious leader with an eye single to political preferment, which will mean that the great ship of state will then be manned and controlled by the republican party, the history-maker of peace, prosperity and happiness, in this country.

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## COUNTY TREASURER

Dies at His Home in Ithaca Thursday, Feb. 11.

## WAS CIVIL WAR VETERAN

Wilbur Nelson, Well Known Business Man and Politician

County Treasurer Wilbur Nelson passed away at his home in Ithaca, Thursday morning, at five o'clock, at the age of seventy-six. He had been suffering from stomach trouble for some time and a short time ago went to Detroit for treatment returning apparently much better. He went to his office at the court house in the severe storm of several weeks ago and since that time has been confined to his home with a severe cold, his condition rapidly becoming worse and his death resulting.

Through the death of Wilbur Nelson Ithaca loses one of its most respected business men who has always taken an active part in the social, business and political life of the city. Gratiot county loses its treasurer, a man especially well fitted to fill his position and one who took an active interest in his work.

Wilbur Nelson is the son of Francis Nelson who settled in Arcadia township in 1854, and who was very active in the organization of the county. The deceased was born in Madison, Lenawee county, February 15, 1815. At the age of fifteen he moved to this county obtaining his education from



the school followed by a course at Gregory's Business college at Kalamazoo.

At the outbreak of the civil war he enlisted in Company C, 8th Michigan Infantry and went out as a sergeant of the company. While serving he took an active part in all of the principal engagements. He was severely wounded several times. After the battle of Fredericksburg he was promoted to second lieutenant of his company. He retired from the service January 1864, returning to Ithaca. Re-entered the service in March of the same year as captain of Co. I, 102nd U. S. Colored Infantry and with his company served in skirmishes in South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

At the close of the war in 1865, he returned to Ithaca and entered the mercantile business with Nathan Church as a partner and in 1898 secured entire management of the business, known as the Nelson Grain company which he has very successfully conducted up to the time of his death.

He has taken an active part in the political life of Ithaca and Gratiot county serving as assistant assessor of internal revenue for four years for Gratiot and Isabella counties. Served as president of Ithaca for one year, and in 1880 represented the county in the state legislature. Last year he was elected treasurer of Gratiot county and commenced his term, January first and has filled the office in a capable manner up to the time of his death.

Wilbur Nelson is survived by his wife, Mary Hamilton, and six children.

The funeral services were held at the First Baptist church in Ithaca, Monday afternoon and a great many were present including all of the county officers. Interment was in the family lot in the local cemetery.

## Slight Fire at Alma Sugar Company Factory

A slight blaze started in the factory of the Alma Sugar company at about 2 o'clock this morning. The fire department responded and the blaze was immediately extinguished. The damage to the building was very slight.

## Salvation Army Post Locates Here

The Salvation Army will open up a post in this city directly over L. N. Baker's at 1104 West Superior St. Meetings will be held Thursday and Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons and evenings, with Captain D. R. Lamont in charge.

## Drives Parents From Home

Robert Tedhamus of St. Louis was arrested by Constable Daggart of Wheeler at the home of his parents in Wheeler, Saturday night. Tedhamus had been enjoying the week end by a little joy party at Merrill and the liquid that he consumed turned his joy to rage.

He immediately went to the home of his parents and showed his filial devotion by driving them out of their home with a club. Constable Daggart was immediately called and the young man endeavored to impress on the law with a huge sledge hammer that he was the better man.

Tedhamus to his sorrow discovered that Daggart was his superior in physical prowess. He was brought to Alma, Saturday evening by Daggart and was met there by Under-sheriff Lewis and taken to Ithaca.

Tedhamus had for some time been the bearer of a very bad reputation in St. Louis and has appeared before for drunkenness.

## COUNTY VACANCY

Will Be Filled at Supervisors' Meeting in April

The county treasurer who will fill the office made vacant by the death of Wilbur Nelson will probably be appointed by the Board of Supervisors at their next meeting which will be held about the first of April.

Until that time A. P. Lane, the former county treasurer and Gaylord Nelson, the son of the former treasurer, will have charge of the office.

It is thought that Gaylord Nelson will be appointed to fill the office at the supervisors' meeting.

## NEW TABERNACLE

The Work Will Commence Monday, Feb. 22

Work on the new tabernacle that will be used to house the immense crowds who are expected to attend the evangelistic services that are to start Sunday, February 28, will commence Monday, February 22.

This building is to be erected at the corner of Prospect avenue and Superior street, and the evangelistic campaign is to be conducted by the Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist church and the First Church of Christ.

The material for the building has been shipped from Chicago and is expected to arrive here the last of the week. Several stoves have been secured but several more will be needed. The Gratiot County Gas company has very generously offered to install gas fixtures and furnish the gas free of charge.

The tabernacle is to be erected by volunteer labor and it is hoped that twenty men will volunteer assistance Monday and by Wednesday, one hundred and fifty men are expected to be employed. The committee expects to complete the work by Wednesday night.

The committee in charge of the campaign intend to dedicate the building, February 26.

## Aged Resident Dies

Theodore G. Frisbie passed away at his home in Forest Hill, Thursday, Feb. 11, at the age of 89.

He was born in Rome, N. Y., Oct. 27, 1825, and settled in Michigan in 1882 at Forest Hill. In 1892 he moved to a farm three miles west of Alma and resided there until 1906. His wife died in that year and since then up to the time of his death he has resided with his son, Frank M. Frisbie, at Forest Hill.

He is survived by four children: Mrs. Elsie E. Hudson of Republic, Wash.; Seth B. and Frank M. of Forest Hill, and Mahlon C. of St. Louis. Fifteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren survive.

The funeral was held at the Christian church at Forest Hill, Sunday, Feb. 14. Rev. J. C. Meese officiating. Burial was in Riverside cemetery.

## Arrested For Breaking And Entering

Mike Pincsek was arrested in this city Friday evening by Deputy Sheriff Parr and taken to Ithaca, charged with breaking and entering the store of Cohen Brothers, Tuesday evening, December 22, and stealing two sweaters. He has confessed to the crime and his case will come up for sentence in the near future.

Mr. T. A. Love transacted business in this city, Monday.

## MODERN BUILDING

Will Be Erected on Edward's Hotel Site

## OLD STRUCTURE IS SOLD

Work of Raising Present Building Commences

The old Edwards' Hotel building, one of the pioneer structures of Alma was recently sold at auction in three parcels and is to be rapidly torn down and a two story modern brick building will be erected in its place by the Merchants' Building association.

The Edwards' hotel block was built in 1872 by George W. Seaman and has been used as a hotel until several years ago. Mr. Seaman conducted the hotel for several years selling it in 1874 to Smith C. Hopkins who managed it for about four years. George W. Puffery, the present proprietor of the Arcadia hotel, then assumed charge conducting a hotel on this site for about four years and selling in 1884 to George McCarty. In the fall of 1887, Mr. McCarty disposed of it to A. B. Angel, still a resident of this city. Mr. Angel conducted the hotel for about ten years, finally selling it to Edward T. Edwards, who remained the proprietor until it was sold in 1901 to Hooper & Gladwin. Under the proprietorship of Mr. Edwards, the hotel was conducted for a short time by George Elias and others. Since it was sold to Hooper & Gladwin, Mrs. Findlater conducted the hotel until it was closed a couple of years ago.

The main part of the building was purchased by E. J. Soule, Pat Whitcraft purchased the south portion of the structure and Alonzo Bailey the north part.

The building site on which the Edwards hotel stood has been sold to the Merchants' Building association, and a modern two-story brick building will soon be built to take the place of the "pioneer." The building operations will start early in the spring.

This company has purchased the Polasky block on West Superior street and intend to remodel the building throughout. The first floor will be occupied by a double store and modern business offices will occupy the second floor. The following officers were elected at a recent meeting of this company: President, Mr. Francis King; vice president, Lester A. Sharp; secretary and treasurer, Charles O. Ward.

## POMPEII TEACHER DIES

Glenn P. Woodman Dies at Home Wednesday, Feb. 10

Glenn A. Woodman, principal of the schools at Pompeii, passed away February 10. About a week before his death he was operated on for appendicitis and his condition was considered very serious up to the time of his death.

Through his death Gratiot county loses a well known school man. Deceased was vice president of the Gratiot County Teacher's association and he expected to be present at the institute held at Ithaca, last week.

He is survived by his wife and two children. Funeral service were held from his home at Pompeii, Saturday afternoon.

## DEMOCRATS MEET

Convention at Ithaca on Tuesday, Feb. 9

At the Gratiot County Democratic convention held at Ithaca, Tuesday, February 9. The following were elected to represent the county at the state convention held at Lansing, Tuesday, February 16.

C. M. Brown, chairman, Ithaca; Dewitt Vought, Alma; Joseph Foster, Ithaca; Jas. K. Wright, St. Louis; Clarence Hopkins, Breckenridge; John Burns, St. Louis; V. P. Cash, Alma; Geo. Smith, Alma; M. Z. Lewis, Banister; Newton Burns, Bethany; C. S. Clark, Arcadia; Decatur Coleman, Alma; W. D. Tucker, Ithaca; John T. Mathews, Ithaca; Frank Peach, Bethany; Lewis McLain, Bethany.

## Card of Thanks

To our friends who so kindly considered us during the death and funeral of our father, we do sincerely extend our thanks. Also to the Aid society and Gleaners for flowers.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Frisbie, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Frisbie, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Frisbie.